

MEDIA ALERT

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National Night Out Public Safety Expo

What: Free Public Safety Expo for National Night Out in The Woodlands, an

event coordinated by The Woodlands Township Neighborhood Services Department. This hands-on event is an opportunity to get up close with public safety personnel and equipment from local, state and federal agencies, ask questions and learn what they do.

Why: To help give neighborhood crime and drugs and going-away party;

it's also an opportunity to promote crime prevention activities and

strengthen the police-community relationship.

When: Saturday, September 21, 2013, from noon to 3 p.m.

Where: Northshore Park, 2505 Lake Woodlands Drive, The Woodlands

77380

Details: Climb inside an ambulance or FBI tank, explore the Montgomery

County Sheriff's Office or ICE Mobile command units, try on SWAT or FBI gear, watch live demonstrations from Narcotic, Explosive Detection and Apprehension dogs and meet real crime scene investigators and Texas Rangers. Additional activities include music, food, and a kid zone complete with a bounce house, face painter, balloonist, crafts and games. New this year: a texting while driving simulator and seatbelt rollover simulator. *K-9 demonstrations*

begin at 1 p.m.



National Night Out Media Contact:

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National Night Out 2013 Backgrounder

National Night Out is when America gives neighborhood crime and drugs a going-away party. In true Texas style, The Woodlands celebration is so big that we celebrate in several ways.

Public Safety Expo

On Saturday, September 21, 2013, from noon to 3 p.m., law enforcement and public safety agencies will gather for a Public Safety exhibition at Northshore Park. Coordinated by The Woodlands Township Neighborhood Services Department, the Public Safety Expo offers fun to residents young and old! Get up close and personal with public safety personnel and equipment from local, state and federal agencies, ask questions and learn about what they do. This free event is designed to promote involvement in crime prevention activities and strengthen police-community relationships. Residents may also learn moreabout our community and the agencies that keep us safe and healthy. Bring your camera, you will want to capture it all.

You do not want to miss this opportunity to:

- Check out Homeland Security's Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected tank
- Explore the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office or ICE Mobile Command units
- Climb inside an ambulance or SWAT Bearkat vehicle
- Try on SWAT and FBI gear
- Watch live demonstrations from Narcotic, Explosive Detection and Apprehension dogs
- Meet real crime scene investigators and Texas Rangers

The kids can enjoy face painting, a bounce house, balloon artists, crafts and hanging out with McGruff and the other mascots that will help celebrate National Night Out. H-E-B will supply free hot dogs and hamburgers.

Neighborhood Parties

The celebration continues on Tuesday, October 1, 2013, with neighborhood parties. National Night Out encourages neighbors to gather together from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on their street or in a nearby park. Neighbor knowing neighbor is one of the most effective ways to prevent crime in your neighborhood, and National Night Out is a great way to get together. How you celebrate is up to your neighborhood; the important thing is to get together and have fun! It's easy to register your party, just visit www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov and click National Night Out. All registered parties will have a chance to meet law enforcement or fire department personnel. Contests and activities are listed on the Township Web site.

Other Events and Activities:

Celebrate Public Safety at Concert in the Park

Sunday, September 15, 2013 4:30 p.m. / concert starts at 5:30 p.m. Northshore Park

Join the Fire Department and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office prior to the concert. Learn how to be *Safe at Home* and meet 'Hap" the MCSO K9.

Interfaith Food Drive

As part of National Night Out, the Township will host a food drive to benefit Interfaith Food Bank. Collect nonperishable food items (visit www.woodlandsinterfaith.org for a list of food items needed) at your National Night Out party. Food items collected can be dropped off between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 2, through Friday, October 4, 2012, at Interfaith of The Woodlands (4242 Interfaith Way). Please make sure you mention National Night Out! Together we CAN make a difference to alleviate hunger in South Montgomery County.



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Say Thank You

Help us say "thank you" to our local public safety personnel in The Woodlands Township! Show your neighborhood spirit and send a message of appreciation to our dedicated deputies and firefighters.

- Create thank you posters at your neighborhoods National Night Out party. Be creative!
- Pick up poster board at Supply and Registration Day (Wednesday, September 17, 2013, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.).
- Deadline to turn in posters is 5 p.m. on Monday, October 14, 2013 at the Township Town Hall.
- Posters will be presented to public safety personnel.

Lights, Camera, Action! Photo Contest

Enter a creative photo from your National Night Out neighborhood party by Friday, October 4, 2013 for a chance to win prizes. Photo entries must include at least one of the following: National Night Out logo, law enforcement representative and/or apparatus, The Woodland Fire Department firefighter and/or vehicle. Judges will look for use of theme, creativity, neighborhood involvement and overall impression. There will be one grand prize winner and seven first prize winners (one from each village). *Good luck!*

I.D. the Burglar Village Challenge

This incredibly fun contest is designed to promote neighborhood cooperation and crime prevention awareness and to test a person's skill and accuracy in identifying a suspect. One neighborhood party will be drawn from the registered parties for the opportunity to represent their village and participate in this challenge. The party with the most accurate description of the burglar will win the overall challenge. To enter, call 281-210-3800 and ask for your National Night Out program specialist to include your neighborhood in the drawing. You may also make the request online when using the National Night Out party registration form at www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/nationalnightout. You must enter by Tuesday, September 17, 2013. The drawing will be Thursday, September 19, 2013, and the selected parties will be notified and given all relevant materials to participate.

How it works: A Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Motorcycle unit will escort a "burglar" and a "good guy" (Montgomery County Sheriff Citizen's Academy Alumni Association) to your neighborhood. Your neighborhood must work as a team to I.D. the Burglar!

Other Dates to Remember:

Early Bird Registration

Register your neighborhood party by Friday, September 13, 2013 to be entered into a drawing for a pizza party and other prizes. One party will be awarded to each village. To register a National Night Out Neighborhood Party:

- 1. Visit www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/NationalNightOut or
- 2. Contact your program specialist at 281-210-3800

Supply and Registration Day

Tuesday, September 17, 2013 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Woodlands Township (2801 Technology Forest Blvd.- Board Chambers entrance)
Stop by and pick up your neighborhood party supplies and crime prevention information and materials.



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The Woodlands National Night Out Summary

What is National Night Out?

The 30th Annual National Night Out is when America gives neighborhood crime and drugs a going-away party. It's a time to get out and get to know your neighbors and local public safety officials. Neighbor knowing neighbor is one of the most effective ways to prevent crime in your neighborhood, and National Night Out is a great way to get together. The Woodlands has celebrated National Night Out since 1990 and has many awards to show for it. The Woodlands has placed in the top 10 for the population category 50,000 – 99,999 17 times, six of those times being first place. In 2012, The Woodlands competed in a new population category of 100,000 and more and finished 9th! More information about National Night Out in The Woodlands can be found at www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/NationalNightOut.

National Night Out in The Woodlands Events and Activities

The Woodlands Fire Department vs. Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Softball Game Saturday, August 17, 2013, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., at Scotland Yard at McCullough Junior High, 3800 S. Panther Creek Drive, 77381

Early Bird Registration

Residents who register their National Night Out party by Friday, September 13, 2013, will have their name entered in a drawing for a chance to win free pizza and other prizes for their party.

Celebrate Public Safety with Concert in the Park

Sunday, September 15, 2013, at 4:30 p.m., at Northshore Park, 2505 Lake Woodlands Drive, 77380 Join the Fire Department and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office prior to the concert. Learn how to be *Safe at Home* and meet 'Hap" the MCSO K9.

• Supply and Registration Day

Tuesday, September 17, 2013, 10 a.m.to 6 p.m., at The Woodlands Township, 2801 Technology Forest Blvd. Woodlands Watch coordinators are encouraged to pick up handy supplies for their National Night Out party including: balloons, giveaways, signs, crime prevention information and party ideas.

Public Safety Expo

Saturday, September 21, 2013, from noon to 3 p.m., at Northshore Park, 2505 Lake Woodlands Drive, 77380. Law enforcement and public safety agencies will gather for a celebration designed to promote involvement in crime prevention activities and strengthen police-community relationships.

Neighborhood Parties:

Tuesday, October 1, 2013, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Residents of The Woodlands are encouraged to get to know their neighbors and participate in other activities including having a <u>food drive</u> to benefit a local food pantry, taking photos to submit for a <u>photo contest</u>, creating <u>"thank you" posters</u> that will be distributed to local public safety agencies and playing <u>I.D. the Burglar</u>.

National Night Out in The Woodlands Photos and Captions

For high-resolution photos, please contact Marian Leck at mleck@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov.

The agencies expected to attend include:

- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Montgomery County Constable Precinct 3
- Harris County Constable Precinct 4
- Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- The Woodlands Fire Department
- The Fire Marshal
- FBI
- DEA
- Texas Rangers
- Department of Homeland Security/Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Security Alpha & Omega Mounted Security Patrol
- Texas Army National Guard
- US Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Montgomery County Juvenile Probation
- Montgomery County Search & Rescue
- Montgomery County Hospital District
- Montgomery County Emergency Communications District 9-1-1
- Texas Equusearch
- DWI Tracker
- Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission
- Crime Stoppers
- The Woodlands Community Emergency Response Team

Other community organizations include:

- American Red Cross
- Operation Lifesaver
- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Academy Alumni
- Interfaith of The Woodlands
- Montgomery County Women's Center
- VFW
- American Legion Post 305
- YMCA
- National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Forestry Service
- Southeast Texas Poison Control
- Friends of Texas Wildlife
- Entergy & CenterPoint Energy
- Texas Gulf Coast Crime Prevention Association
- Distracted driving and rollover simulators
- United Way